CLAIMS

We Claim:

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1.   A method facilitated by a computer network to accomplish a foreign currency exchange transaction between business entities, comprising the acts of:

provided a central server system having a communication channel for

10   electronically communicating with the business entities, whereby a representative of a first business entity that is registered is allowed access to the central server system;

allowing the representative to select a currency pair to be transacted;

displaying at least one rate for the selected currency pair posted by a

15   representative from a second business entity which is registered with the central server system, the second business entity having established a mutual credit line with the first business entity; and

allowing the representative of the first business entity to place an order on the currency pair, whereby the order is matched against the posted rates, a

20   match resulting in a trade, and a non-match resulting in a posting of the order.

2.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein particulars of the trade are shown on a display.

25   3.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein the central server system allows a business entity to limit an amount which can be traded by a representative.

4.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein the central server system allows a business entity to specify a period of time allowed for trading.

5   5.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein the central server system prevents a trading from occurring if a trade would exceed a pre-defined percentage of a credit line given to a business entity.

6.   The method as recited in Claim 5 wherein the central server system
10   allows a business entity to determine the pre-defined percentage.

7.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein three best rates for a given currency pair are posted.

15   8.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein an amount of currency is posted with the rate.

9.   The method as recited in Claim 7 wherein an amount of currency is posted with the rates.
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10.   The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein the amount can be an aggregation from a plurality of orders.

11.   The method as recited in Claim 9 wherein the amount can be an
25   aggregation from a plurality of orders.

12. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

13. The method as recited in Claim 9 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

14. The method as recited in Claim 10 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

15. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

16. The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein the central server system allows a business entity to directly send via the communication channel a foreign exchange order for a client.

17. The method as recited in Claim 16 wherein the client is allowed to place the foreign exchange order through a network.

18. The method as recited in Claim 17 wherein the client can place the order using an order entry interface accessed through a network.

19. The method as recited in Claim 18 wherein the order entry interface is provided by a business entity's system.

20. The method as recited in Claim 18 wherein the interface includes a field for order type.

21. The method as recited in Claim 19 where the business entity's system allows a viewing of the order placed by the client through a order monitor.

5 22. The method as recited in Claim 21 wherein the order placed by the client can be executed by the business entity servicing the client.

23. The method as recited in Claim 16 wherein the client places a collateral with the business entity.

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24. The method as recited in Claim 17 wherein the client places a collateral with the business entity.

25. The method as recited in Claim 23 wherein the business entity sets a

15 limit on an amount the client can trade based on the amount of the collateral placed.

26. The method as recited in Claim 24 wherein the business entity sets a limit on an amount the client can trade based on the amount of the collateral

20 placed.

27. A method facilitated by a computer network to accomplish a foreign currency exchange transaction between business entities, comprising the acts of:

25 providing a central server system having a communication channel for electronically communicating with the business entities;

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registering a first business entity whereby a representative is assigned a role of administrator, credit officer, and a trader, each role requiring a proper login ID and a password to access the central server system;

allowing the trader to select a currency pair to be transacted;

displaying at least one rate for the selected currency pair posted by a trader from a second business entity which is registered with the central server system, the second business entity having established a mutual credit line with the first business entity; and

allowing the trader of the first business entity to place an order on the currency pair, whereby the order is matched against the posted rates, a match resulting in a fulfillment of the order, and a non-match resulting in a posting of the order.

28. The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein the trade is shown on a display.

29. The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein the central server system allows the administrator to limit an amount which can be traded by the trader.

30. The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein the central server system allows a business entity to specify a period of time allowed for trading.

31. The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein the central server system prevents a trading from occurring if a trade would exceed a pre-defined percentage of a credit line given to a business entity.

32.   The method as recited in Claim 31 wherein the central server system allows the credit officer to determine the pre-defined percentage.

33.   The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein three best rates for a given currency pair are posted.

34.   The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein an amount of currency is posted with the rate.

35.   The method as recited in Claim 33 wherein an amount of currency is posted with the rates.

36.   The method as recited in Claim 34 wherein the amount can be an aggregation from a plurality of orders.

37.   The method as recited in Claim 35 wherein the amount can be an aggregation from a plurality of orders.

38.   The method as recited in Claim 34 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

39.   The method as recited in Claim 35 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

40.   The method as recited in Claim 36 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

41.   The method as recited in Claim 37 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

42.   The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein the central server system

5   allows a business entity to directly send via the communication channel a foreign exchange order for a client.

43.   The method as recited in Claim 42 wherein the client is allowed to place the foreign exchange order through a network.

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44.   The method as recited in Claim 43 wherein the client can place the order using an order entry interface accessed through a network.

45.   The method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the order entry interface is

15   provided by a business entity's system.

46.   The method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the interface includes a field for order type.

20   47.   The method as recited in Claim 45 where the business entity's system allows a viewing of the order placed by the client through a order monitor.

48.   The method as recited in Claim 47 wherein the order placed by the client can be executed by the business entity servicing the client.

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49.   The method as recited in Claim 42 wherein the client places a collateral with the business entity.

50.   The method as recited in Claim 43 wherein the client places a collateral with the business entity.

5   51.   The method as recited in Claim 49 wherein the business entity sets a limit on an amount the client can trade based on the amount of the collateral placed.

52.   The method as recited in Claim 50 wherein the business entity sets a
10   limit on an amount the client can trade based on the amount of the collateral placed.

53.   A method facilitated by a computer network to accomplish a foreign currency exchange transaction between clients having an account with a
15   business entity, comprising the acts of:

providing a business entity's system having a communication channel for electronically communicating with the clients;

registering the clients with the business entity's system whereby the registered clients are allowed access to the business entity's system and
20   whereby the registered clients place a collateral with the business entity;

allowing the clients to select a currency pair to be transacted;

displaying at least one rate for the selected currency pair posted by a registered client;

allowing the registered clients to place an order on the currency pair,
25   whereby the order is matched against the posted rates, a match resulting in a trade, and a non-match resulting in a posting of the order;

and settling the trade.

54.   The method as recited in Claim 53 wherein particulars of the trade are shown on a display.

5   55.   The method as recited in Claim 53 wherein the business entity's system limits an amount which can be traded by a client, the limit being determined by an amount of collateral placed by the client.

56.   The method as recited in Claim 53 wherein three best rates for a given

10   currency pair are posted.

57.   The method as recited in Claim 53 wherein an amount of currency is posted with the rate.

15   58.   The method as recited in Claim 56 wherein an amount of currency is posted with the rates.

59.   The method as recited in Claim 57 wherein the amount can be an aggregation from a plurality of orders.

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60.   The method as recited in Claim 58 wherein the amount can be an aggregation from a plurality of orders.

61.   The method as recited in Claim 57 wherein the amount is updated when

25   a matching order is found.

62.   The method as recited in Claim 58 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

63.   The method as recited in Claim 59 wherein the amount is updated when 5   a matching order is found.

64.   The method as recited in Claim 60 wherein the amount is updated when a matching order is found.

10   65.   The method as recited in Claim 53 wherein the business entity is a bank.

66.   The method as recited in Claim 65 wherein the clients are account holders of the bank.